

~~SECRET~~NPIC/D-96-61
15 September 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Support)
THROUGH : Deputy Director (Intelligence)
SUBJECT : NPIC Communications

1. NPIC has an increasing need for secure electrical communications with the CIA communications facility (OPCEN), presently located at 1717 H Street, [redacted] and the Military Services and their major field commands.

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2. To date we have had to prepare cable forms and courier them to OPCEN for transmission. This Fall, however, OPCEN will move to the new CIA building at Langley, Virginia which is 13 miles rather than 2.4 miles from the Stewart Building.

3. Selected sensitive reports and messages are transmitted between NPIC and [redacted] SAC, ACIC, AFIC, JCS, NSA, PTD, ACII/DA, CINCLANTFLT, CGO/IN, etc. For example, over a period of 36 days, during a recent overseas crisis in which NPIC supported [redacted] 263 "IG" cables were received and 166 "OUT" cables dispatched totaling more than 2000 pages of intelligence data. All of these cables had a handling precedence of either "OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE" or "EMERGENCY". Similar and heavier cable traffic loads have been experienced from time to time as international crises developed in various parts of the world. NPIC is under constant pressure from certain USIB committees to expedite the dissemination of tactical reports prepared at Joint Military/ [redacted] facilities and supplements prepared at NPIC. In addition, NPIC frequently produces lengthy daily intelligence reports on the Sino Soviet Bloc. Such reports averaging 25-30 pages are converted from IBM cards to 5 channel teletype tape so that messages may be transmitted immediately to [redacted] SAC Headquarters, Omaha.

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4. Because of the obviously heavy cable traffic received and dispatched by NPIC, the establishment at NPIC of a small, basic and secure communications facility on-line to OPCEN is warranted. In view of the imminent move of OPCEN to Langley such a facility is required as soon as possible.

5. It is requested that a basic communications facility on-line to OPCEN be established as soon as possible at NPIC.

[Redacted]

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ARTHUR C. WADDELL
Director
National Photographic Interpretation Center

Distribution:

0 & 1 - DD/S
1 - DD/I
1 - C/DMD/NPIC
1 - C/SS/NPIC
1 - C/AS/NPIC
1 - OPCEN Attn: [Redacted]
1 - OD/NPIC chrono
1 - OD/NPIC subj file (commun.)

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OO/NPIC

[Redacted] (15 Sep 61)

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